

Executive Registry

100-3198

20 July 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Helms
~~Colonel White~~

SUBJECT: Senator Ervin's Investigation of Invasion
of Employees Privacy

Information.

Henry Hubbard, of Newsweek, is doing a piece on the forthcoming investigation of alleged invasion by Government agencies of the privacy of employees.

Hubbard understands that CIA gives psychological tests, has psychiatric interviews, uses the polygraph, requires the loyalty oath, does background and security investigations etc. He said he understands the necessity for CIA doing these things. He asked if the lie-detector is used regarding the sex life of an employee. I told him the Agency interest is to prevent sex deviates getting into the Agency and that the polygraph is not definitive but if it gives indicators they are followed up by the usual investigatory means.

A clipping on Ervin's statement is attached.

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Att.

Senate Will Hold Hearings Soon On Government Personnel Policies

By JOSEPH YOUNG
Star Staff Writer

The Senate Constitutional Rights subcommittee will hold fullscale public hearings soon on the government's personnel policies, which it asserts are posing serious threats to the rights and privacy of federal employees.

This announcement was made by Sen. Sam Ervin, D-N.C., chairman of the group which in recent months has been growing increasingly critical of federal personal policies.

Ervin, in announcing the forthcoming hearings, declared:

"From the reports coming to the subcommittee, I believe there is now being created in the federal service a climate of fear, apprehension and coercion which is detrimental to the health of the service and is corroding the rights of federal employees. It should disturb every American citizen who takes pride in his government . . .

"Psychological testing, psychiatric interviews, race questionnaires, lie detectors, loyalty oaths, probing personnel forms and background investigations, restrictions on communicating with Congress, pressure to support political parties financially, yet restrictions on all other political activity, coercion to buy savings bonds, extensive limitations on outside activities, rules for speaking and writing, and even thinking, forms for revealing personal data about finances, creditors, property and other interests of employees and their families, all of these raise due process questions of a substantive nature, for they increasingly shrink the realm of personal liberty and violate individual privacy."

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